

## **SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

### ***Series 1000***

**Policy Title: Homeless Children and Youth**

**Code Number: 504.9**

The Board shall make reasonable efforts to identify homeless children and youth of school age within the District, encourage their enrollment and eliminate existing barriers to their education, which may exist in District policies or practices.

So that enrollment of homeless children and youth of school age may be facilitated, the following policy areas shall be modified as follows:

A. Residency

Residence for the purpose of attending school shall be where that child actually resides or the child's district of origin. The deciding factor in establishing an attendance center shall be the welfare of the child. As much as possible, the child will not be required to change attendance centers within the District every time the child changes residence unless that change results in the child no longer being classified as homeless. If it is in the best interest of the child to remain in their school of attendance after establishing official domicile, the District may allow the child to remain in that school.

B. Transportation

Policies or practices regarding transportation of students which might cause a barrier to the attendance of a homeless child or youth may be

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Revision Adoption: August 12, 1997/December 14, 2004  
Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq. (Sup. 1989)  
289 I.A.C. Chapter 33

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waived by the Assistant Superintendent.

C. Special Services

All services which are available to resident students shall be made available to homeless students enrolled in the District.

D. Records

For students transferring out of the District, a copy of the records may be provided directly to the students or the student's parent(s). In addition, students transferring into the District may provide cumulative records directly to the District. The District shall not require that such records be forwarded from another district before that student may enroll. The receiving attendance center shall request the official records from the sending school no later than one month after the student is enrolled in the attendance center.

E. Immunization Requirements

Homeless students shall not be denied enrollment for lack of immunization records if:

1. They have a statement signed by a physician stating the immunization would be injurious to the child.
2. They provide an affidavit stating such immunization would conflict with their religious beliefs.
3. They are in the process of being immunized.
4. They are a transfer student from another school.

The District shall make a reasonable effort to locate immunization records from the information provided or shall arrange for the student to receive immunizations.

F. Waiver of Fees and Charges

Fees and charges which may present a barrier to the enrollment or transfer of a homeless child or youth may be waived at the discretion of the Superintendent.

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G. Enrollment Requirements/Placement

Enrollment requirements which may constitute a barrier to the education of the homeless child or youth may be waived at the discretion of the Superintendent. If the District is unable to determine the grade level of the student because of missing or incomplete records, the District shall administer tests or utilize other reasonable means to determine the appropriate grade level for the child or youth.

The contents of this policy shall supersede any and all conflicting provisions in District policies dealing with the seven policy areas discussed above.